

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY USNRC:JDLAFLEUR
APPROVED BY OES/NET/IM: D B HOYLE
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: TECH, AU, KS

SUBJECT:NUCLEAR SAFETY ASSISTANCE TO KOREA

REF: STATE 119411

1. NRC HAS BEEN CONSIDERING OVER THE PAST SEVERAL WEEKS HOW BEST TO RESPOND TO KECO AND KAEB INTEREST IN OBTAINING SERVICES OF US EXPERTS TO ADVISE ON FIRE PROTECTION AND CABLE SEPARATION AT KORI, AS DISCUSSED IN REFTTEL.
2. AFTER A CAREFUL REVIEW OF OPTIONS INVOLVING COMBINATIONS OF AVAILABLE USG EMPLOYEES WHOSE EXPERTISE WOULD SPAN THE UNCLASSIFIED

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NECESSARY DISCIPLINES,NRC BELIEVES FAR BETTER APPROACH WOULD BE FOR KECO TO SECURE THE SERVICES OF THE CONSULTANT CONTRACTOR WHICH HAS BEEN PARTICIPATING WITH NRC (PART OF THE NRC REVIEW TEAM) IN REVIEWING THE FIRE PROTECTION PROGRAMS OF US NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS. THIS CONSULTANT IS EXPERT IN NRC FIRE PROTECTION REQUIREMENTS (INCLUDING RELATED CABLE SEPARATION CRITERIA) AND HAS DEVELOPED THE

NECESSARY FAMILIARITY WITH THE SHUTDOWN SYSTEMS OF US TYPE REACTORS. (KECO, OF COURSE, WOULD NEED TO PROVIDE SOMEONE WHO KNOWS THE KORI FIRE PROTECTION PROGRAM AND THE ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL SYSTEMS NECESSARY FOR SAFE SHUTDOWN OF THE REACTOR TO ACCOMPANY THE CONSULTANT WHILE AT THE SITE.)

3. THE CONSULTING ORGANIZATION IS GAGE-BABCOCK AND ASSOCIATES, INCORPORATED, WITH OFFICES IN CHICAGO, SAN FRANCISCO, LOS ANGELES AND NEW YORK. NRC SUGGEST KECO CONTACT MR. BERT M. COHN, SENIOR VICE-PRESIDENT, WHO IS AT THE CHICAGO OFFICE AT 135 ADDISON AVENUE, ELMHURST, ILLINOIS, 60126. HIS TELEPHONE NUMBER IS 312-530-1494. NRC UNDERSTANDS THAT COHN MIGHT BE AVAILABLE TO VISIT KOREA FOR A 7 TO 10 DAY ON-SITE REVIEW; HIS FEE WOULD BE ABOUT \$400 PER DAY IN ADDITION TO TRAVEL AND SUBSISTENCE COSTS. THE FEE WOULD ALSO BE CHARGED FOR TIME SPENT IN US PREPARING HIS REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS, THE LENGTH OF TIME DEPENDING ON KECO'S WISHES REGARDING THE DEGREE OF DETAIL, DRAWINGS, ETC.

4. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO PASS THE ABOVE INFORMATION TO KECO AND KAEB, AS APPROPRIATE, AND TO REPORT THEIR REACTION. IF CONSULTANT ARRANGEMENT DOES NOT SEEM WORKABLE, NRC WILL RESUME EFFORT TO RECRUIT SUITABLE USG EMPLOYEE TEAM. HOWEVER, AT THE MOMENT, NRC BELIEVES CONSULTANT ROUTE TO BE MOST EFFECTIVE, SINCE IT WOULD

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PARALLEL APPROACH US IS TAKING. VANCE

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